1991 as deadline to take action on the construction of Shri Ram Temple at Ayodhya:

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by the Government to settle the issue amicably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) The matter is subjudice and the issue primarily concerns the State Government of Uttar Pradesh. Central Government have not received any communication from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard.

[*English*]

Suicide by two Indian students in Moscow

2221. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Indian students have reportedly committed suicide in a Moscow hotel; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to obtain complete details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Government were informed by Indian Embassy in Moscow on 8th July 1991 that Shri Sanjay Shandilya and Kumari Shalini Goyal reportedly attempted to commit suicide on 6th July 1991 by jumping from the latter's fifth floor hostel room in Moscow. Subsequently, both, unfortunately succumbed to their injuries.

(b) The Indian Embassy in Moscow has been in constant contact with the appropriate Soviet authorities with a view to ensuring that proper investigations into the tragic incident are conducted. Soviet authorities have conducted detailed post mortem on the bodies. The police investigation report is awaited.

Indo-USSR Treaty on Peace, Friendship and Co-operation

2222. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to renew the Indo-Soviet Peace, Friendship and Cooperation Treaty signed in 1971 which is due to expire in August, 1991; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) In accordance with Article 11 of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, the Treaty stands automatically extended for a further period of 5 years.

[*Translation*]

Indo-Nepal talks on Water Resources

2223. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of bilateral talks held in April, 1991 in the second meeting of Indo-Nepal Sub-Commission on Water Resources; and

(b) when the next meeting is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) It was agreed to complete the studies on Pancheshwar and Karnali Projects, jointly finalise the extension of river embankments at border, and expedite setting up of flood forecasting Stations in Nepal.